

IN THE CELESTIAL EMPIRE.

China has long had the credit of being the first nation to institute examinations to determine fitness for office.

During the siege of Peking the members of the diplomatic corps and the missionaries who were shut up in the British embassy ate 80 mules.

Among the loot at Peking that fell to the lot of a Russian officer was the decoration of the Order of the Black Eagle and the autograph letter from Emperor William which conferred the insignia upon the emperor of China.

A celebrated Chinese dancing master, Hung Foo Choo, announces in a Chinese paper that he is to hold a religious service, to which he invites everybody, in honor of the one hundredth anniversary of the death of his ancestor, who was the first of the family to take up the profession.

A Chinese belle on special occasions will entirely bedaub her face with white paint, adding rouge to the lips and cheeks in such profusion that she looks more like a painted mask than anything human. Her eyebrows are blackened with charred sticks and arched or narrowed in accordance with her idea of beauty.

One of the conditions of peace in the terms proposed by the foreign envoys to China is that provincial examinations shall be suspended for five years in the districts where the outrages of the Boxers were committed. This means that there can be no appointments to office or promotions for that period, because examinations are essential for both.

FACTS ABOUT SWITZERLAND.

In Switzerland a favorite dish is boiled chestnuts mashed fine and served with whipped cream.

Switzerland enjoys the unenviable distinction of having a larger percentage of lunatics than any other country.

There is a Consumers' league in the canton of Zurich, Switzerland, which yields the members over 12 per cent. annually.

The longest tunnel in the world is that of St. Gothard, on the line of the railroad between Milan and Lucerne. It is 9 1/2 miles in length, and cost over \$45,000,000.

Little Switzerland comes up with 125,000 men, of whom 102,507 are infantry, 3,758 cavalry and 21,632 artillery. The cost of her army annually is about \$3,750,000.

The waterfalls of Switzerland are being rapidly utilized for the driving of electric dynamos, and it is rare to find a place of any size which is not well lighted by the power of some mountain stream.

In proportion to its size, Switzerland has more inns than any other country in the world. The entertainment of tourists has become the chief industry of the land, and has been officially computed to bring in \$23,000,000 a year.

THE WORLD OVER.

Eleven Indian languages are still spoken in Mexico.

Of every six Mexicans five are unable to read and write.

There are 40 islands in the Scilly isles, with a total area of 55 square miles.

The fourth census of the Dominion of Canada is to be taken in April.

Great difficulty is met in obtaining veterinary surgeons for service in India.

In Mexico school-teachers usually have a cigar in the mouth. Even criminals before the bar are allowed to smoke.

Rats are not animals in the eyes of the law, as the humane society of Toronto found to its intense disgust when it tried to stop the slaughter of them by dogs.

MARKET REPORT.

Cincinnati, Dec. 26.

CATTLE—Common	\$2 50	@ 3 75
Extra butchers	4 60	@ 4 85
CALVES—Extra	7 00	@ 7 00
HOGS—Choice packers	5 12 1/2	@ 5 15
Mixed packers	5 00	@ 5 10
SHEEP—Extra	3 25	@ 3 50
LAMBS—Extra	5 10	@ 5 25
FLOUR—Spring pat.	3 90	@ 4 30
WHEAT—No. 2 red.	78 1/2	@ 78
CORN—No. 2 mixed	37 1/2	@ 37 1/2
OATS—No. 2 mixed	24 1/2	@ 24 1/2
RYE—No. 2	54	@ 54
HAY—Best timothy	14 50	@ 14 50
PORK—Family	12 50	@ 12 50
LARD—Steam	6 70	@ 6 70
BUTTER—Ch. dairy	14	@ 14
Choice creamery	26 1/2	@ 26 1/2
APPLES—Ch. to fancy	3 00	@ 3 50
POTATOES—Per brl.	1 65	@ 1 75
TOMATO—New	10 00	@ 11 25
Old	12 00	@ 14 75

Chicago.

FLOUR—Win. patent	3 65	@ 3 80
WHEAT—No. 2 red.	72 1/2	@ 74
CORN—No. 2	66	@ 66
OATS—No. 2	23 1/2	@ 23 1/2
RYE—No. 2	50 1/2	@ 51
PORK—Mess	11 12 1/2	@ 11 25
LARD—Steam	6 85	@ 6 90

New York.

FLOUR—Win. patent	3 60	@ 3 90
WHEAT—No. 2 red.	72 1/2	@ 73 1/2
CORN—No. 2 mixed	37 1/2	@ 37 1/2
OATS—No. 2 mixed	24 1/2	@ 24 1/2
RYE—No. 2	54	@ 54
PORK—Family	14 50	@ 15 00
LARD—Steam	7 00	@ 7 00

Baltimore.

WHEAT—No. 2 red.	72 1/2	@ 72 1/2
CORN—No. 2 mixed	42 1/2	@ 42 1/2
OATS—No. 2 mixed	23 1/2	@ 23 1/2
CATTLE—Butchers	4 75	@ 5 00
HOGS—Western	5 30	@ 5 40

Louisville.

FLOUR—Win. patent	4 25	@ 4 70
WHEAT—No. 2 red.	75	@ 75
CORN—Mixed	41	@ 41
OATS—Mixed	26	@ 26
PORK—Mess	12 00	@ 12 00
LARD—Steam	7 00	@ 7 00

Indianapolis.

WHEAT—No. 2 red.	73 1/2	@ 73 1/2
CORN—No. 2 mixed	37	@ 37
OATS—No. 2 mixed	23 1/2	@ 23 1/2

WEAKNESS OF HUMAN NATURE

According to the Idea of an Insurance Agent Who Was Interested in the Fire.

"Talk about the frailties of human nature," said a well-known insurance agent the other day, relates the Kansas City Journal, "no one else has so good an opportunity to discover them as an insurance man. An incident occurred a few days ago that showed me a side of a neighbor's character which I had never suspected to exist. A fire broke out in his home, and do you know, that man went three blocks to a telephone to report it, when there was a phone right in his house."

"I saw the fire soon after it started, and rushed to give assistance. It was while helping to pack the things out that I discovered the phone, and turned in the alarm. Now, it takes a strong stretch of the imagination to believe that the owner had forgotten there was a telephone in his house. That he should have acted as he did undermines one's faith in people in general."

"Think of it. There I was sweating and endangering my life to save his property, while he was anxious, evidently, to have it burn. Such conduct doesn't encourage one to exert himself for others."

"By the way," interrupted a listener, "did any of your companies hold a policy on that house?"

"Now, you are asking a leading question," replied the insurance man, with a guileless smile. "What I am saying is that the actions of that man are a sad commentary on human nature."

The Best Prescription for Chills

and Fever is a bottle of GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC. It is simply iron and quinine in a tasteless form. No cure—no pay. Price, 50c.

Her Pointed View.

Chappie (blase)—Don't you think society is an empty thing?

Miss Fuller—I think there are lots of empty things in society.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

To Cure a Cold in One Day

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund money if it fails to cure. 25c.

Assistant Editor—"I've found out at last who 'Vox Populi' is." Editor—"Who?" Assistant Editor—"Constant Reader" under a nom de plume.—Syracuse Herald.

As a general rule the more a man leaves behind him in this world the less he has to commence the next one with.—Ally Sloper.

PUTNAM FADELESS DYES do not stain the hands or spot the kettle. Sold by all druggists.

Better skin a carcass for pay in the public streets than be idly dependent on charity.—Talmud.

Piso's Cure for Consumption is an infallible medicine for coughs and colds.—N. W. Samuel, Ocean Grove, N. J., Feb. 17, 1900.

Fair Helen—"I hear you have a secret." Fair Grace—"Well, I did have one, but it wouldn't keep."—Syracuse Herald.

Actors, Vocalists, Public Speakers praise Hale's Honey of Horehound and Tar. Pike's Toothache Drops Cure in one minute.

The history of mankind is an immense volume of errors.—Chicago Daily News.

Carter's Ink has a good deep color and it doesn't strain the eyes. Carter doesn't fade.

Learning makes a man fit company for himself.—Young.

All the Kentucky belles chew Kisme Gum. They like it.

He that will not look before must look behind.—Gaelic.

SISTERS OF GOOD SHEPHERD
Use Pe-ru-na for Coughs, Colds, Grippe and Catarrh—A Congressman's Letter.

In every county of the civilized world the Sisters of the Good Shepherd are known. Not only do they minister to the spiritual and intellectual needs of the charges committed to their care, but they also minister to their bodily needs.

With so many children to take care of and to protect from climate and disease, these wise and prudent Sisters have found Peru-na a never-failing safeguard. Columbus, O., July 10, 1900.

The Peru-na Medicine Co., City:

Gentlemen—"A number of years ago our attention was called to Dr. Hartman's Peru-na, and since then we have used it with wonderful results for grippe, coughs, colds, and catarrhal diseases of the head and stomach."

"For grip and winter catarrh especially it has been of great service to the inmates of this institution."—Sisters of the Good Shepherd.

The following letter is from Congressman Meekison, of Napoleon, Ohio:

Too Refined.

"No," said Farmer Meddler, "that Boston fellow that came here to run the paper doesn't seem to get along very well. Our folks ain't much for style, an' when he referred to a skin game as 'an epidemic pastime' they thought he was becoming a little too highfalutin'."—Baltimore American.

Maiden Auntie—"Now, Geraldine, you were young as you—Geraldine—"Was you ever young, auntie? It seems impossible." Ohio State Journal.

The stamp of a gentleman isn't on the face, but on the back of the neck.—Chicago Daily News.

Insurance Sleepers Via M., K. & T. Ry.

Weekly Excursion Sleepers leave St. Louis via Katy Flyer (M. K. & T. Ry.) every Tuesday at 8:16 p. m. for San Antonio, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Weekly Excursion Sleepers leave Kansas City via the M. K. & T. Ry. every Saturday at 9:05 p. m. for San Antonio, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

It is folly for a pair of fond lovers to gaze into each other's eyes in public and try to persuade themselves that the observing public isn't next.—Chicago Daily News.

Genuine charity is after all not so very particular as to where it begins.—Detroit Journal.

\$3.00 W. L. DOUGLAS SHOES \$3.50
UNION MADE

The real worth of W. L. Douglas shoes is \$3.50 and \$3.50 shoes compared with other makes is \$4.00 to \$5.00. Our \$4.00 Edge Line cannot be equalled at any price. Over 1,000,000 satisfied wearers.

WE USE FAST COLOR EYELETS

One pair of W. L. Douglas shoes will positively outwear two pairs of ordinary \$3 or \$3.50 shoes.

FACTORY, BROCKTON, MASS.

Best \$3.50 SHOE. Best \$3.00 SHOE.

We are the largest makers of men's \$3 and \$3.50 shoes in the world. We make and sell more \$3 and \$3.50 shoes than any other two manufacturers in the U. S.

The reputation of W. L. Douglas shoes is known everywhere throughout the world. They have to give better satisfaction than other makes because the standard has always been placed so high that the wearers expect more for their money than they can get elsewhere.

THE REASON more W. L. Douglas shoes are sold than any other make is because THEY ARE THE BEST. Your dealer should keep them. We give one dealer exclusive sale in each town. Take no substitutes. Insist on having W. L. Douglas shoes with name and price stamped on bottom. If your dealer will not get them for you, write to factory, enclosing price and 25c. extra for carriage. State kind of leather, size, and width, plain or cap toe. Our shoes will reach you anywhere. Catalogue free. W. L. Douglas Shoe Co., Brockton, Mass.

LOW RATES For The HOLIDAYS Via Big Four Route

On December 23d, 28th, 29th, 30th and 31st, 1900, and January 1st, 1901, tickets will be on sale between all local points on the "Big Four Route" and the U. S. R. R.; also to many points on connecting lines in Central Passenger Association territory, at a rate of

ONE and ONE-THIRD FARE FOR THE ROUND TRIP.

Tickets will be good for return to and including January 2nd, 1901.

For full information and particulars as to rates, tickets, limit, etc., call on Agents of Big Four Route, or address the undersigned.

WARREN J. LYNCH, W. F. DEPPE, Gen. Pass. & Tr. Agt. Asst. G. P. & T. A. CINCINNATI, O.

FREE ELECTRIC BELT OFFER

WITHIN DAY'S FREE WEARING

TRIAL IN YOUR OWN HOME, we

guarantee the genuine and

only HEBBARD'S ALTERNATING

CURRENT ELECTRIC BELT to

any reader of this paper.

No money in advance, very low

cost, and no obligation. COST

ALMOST NOTHING compared

with most all other treatments. Cures

with all other electric belts, and

removes all other ailments. ONLY

ONE BELT FOR ALL NERVOUS

diseases, weakness and disorders. For complete

catalogue, cut this ad. out and mail to us.

SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., Chicago.

Dr. Williams' Indian Pile

ointment will cure Blind,

bleeding and itching

Piles. It absorbs the

tumors, allays the itching

at once, acts as a

protective agent against re-

turn. Prepared for Piles

and hemorrhoids of the private

parts. At druggists or by

mail on receipt of price, 50 cents and \$1.00.

WILLIAMS' MED. CO., PROP., CLEVELAND, OHIO.

DROPSY NEW DISCOVERY: gives

cases. Book of testimonials and 10 days' treatment

Free. Dr. H. B. GREEN'S SONS, Box D, Atlanta, Ga.

A. N. K. - E. 1845

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS

please state that you saw the Advertise-

ment in this paper.

French Salve

It is the great healer. It heals the Bone Ointment, or Root of Scars. It has no equal. A positive cure for Piles, Hemorrhoids, Cancers, Carbuncles, Boils, Scalds, Piles, Cuts, Burns, Salt Rheum, and all skin diseases. Positive cure for Ringworms of long standing. Your only chance to get a standing cure. This Renowned French Salve is through this advertisement, as it is not sold by druggists. We mail it free to any address upon receipt of price, 50c. and \$1.00 per box.

W. J. KENNEDY & CO.,

Box 51, Station D, Cincinnati, O.

PILES ANAKESIS gives relief and positive cure for Piles and Hemorrhoids. For free sample address "ANAKESIS," Tribune Building, New York.

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

PILES

Through Chair Cars To Texas.

All through trains, via the Cotton Belt, carry handsome Free Reclining Chair Cars from Memphis to principal points in Texas without change. These cars are furnished with chairs which can be made to recline at any angle, thus affording an easy seat during the day, and a comfortable place to sleep at night.

In addition to the Through Free Chair Cars, Cotton Belt trains are equipped with Pullman Sleepers at night, and Parlor Cafe Cars during the day. The comfort thus provided for everybody, combined with the fastest time, make the Cotton Belt the most desirable route to Texas.

Write and tell us where you are going and when you will leave, and we will tell you what your ticket will cost and what train to take